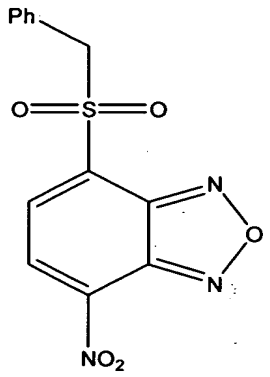
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of treating cancer in a mammal that expresses the same level or a higher level of Wip1 as compared to a mammal of the same species that does not have cancer, which method comprises administering to the mammal a cancer-treating effective amount of a Wip1 inhibitor, whereupon the mammal is treated for cancer.

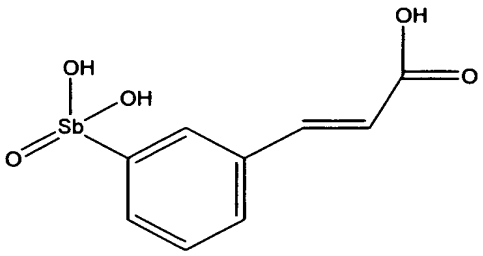
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the inhibitor is a compound that inhibits Wip1 phosphatase activity.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the inhibitor is a compound having a molecular weight of about 10 kDa or less.

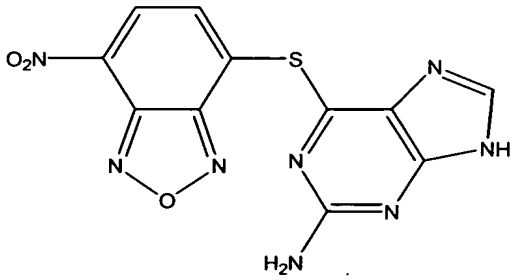
4. The method of claim 3, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of



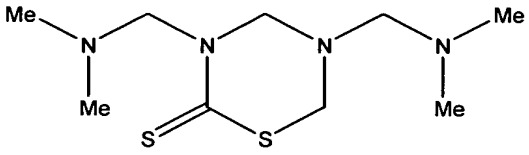
(Compound A),



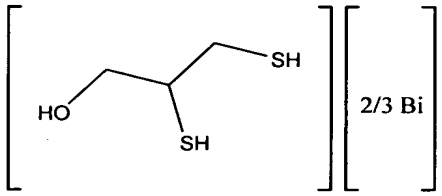
(Compound B),



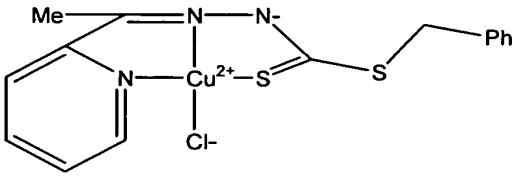
(Compound C),



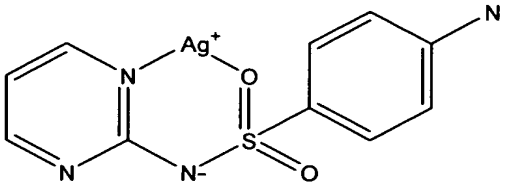
(Compound D),



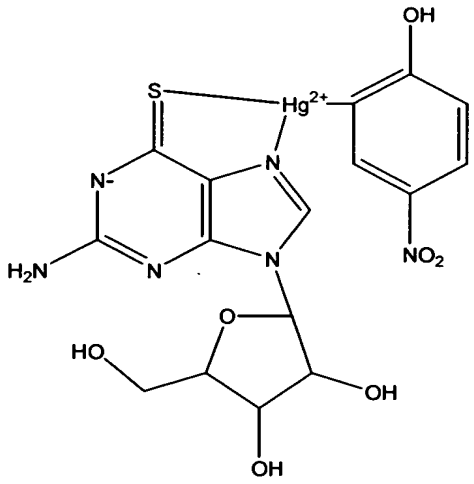
(Compound E),



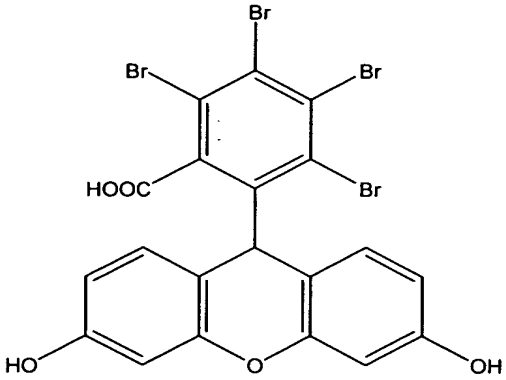
(Compound F),



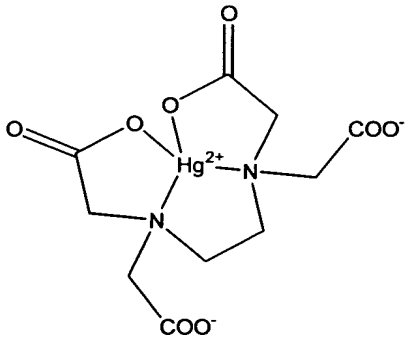
(Compound G),



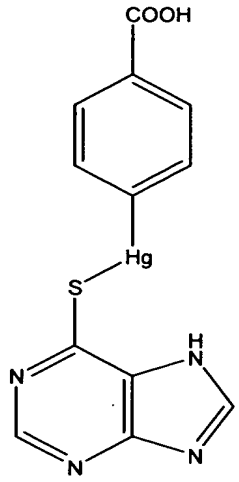
(Compound H),



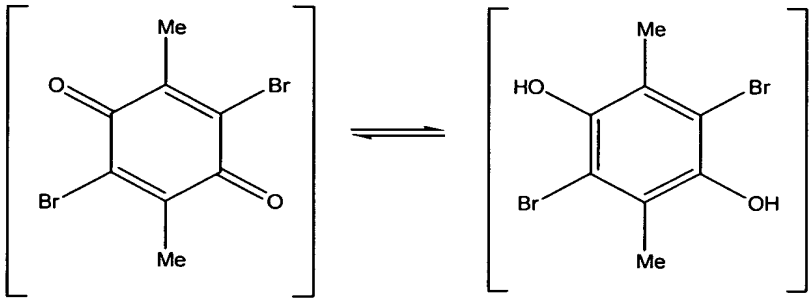
(Compound I),



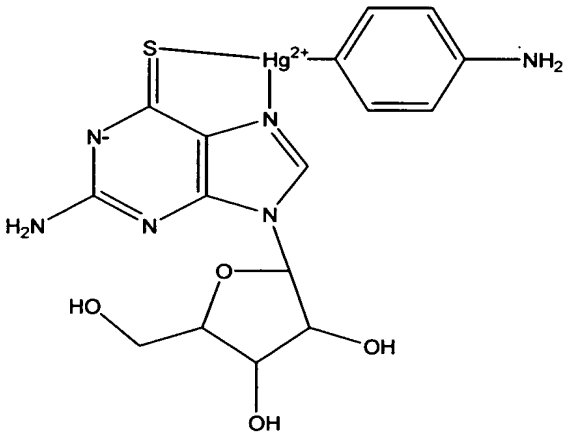
(Compound J),



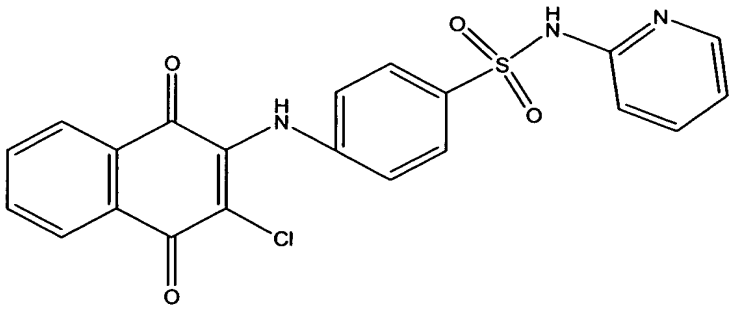
(Compound K),



(Compound L),



(Compound M), and



(Compound N),

or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the compound is Compound L.

6. The method of claim 4, wherein the compound is Compound M.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the cancer is breast cancer.

8. A method of inhibiting Wip1 phosphatase activity in a cell, which method comprises administering to the cell a compound selected from the group consisting of Compound A, Compound B, Compound C, Compound D, Compound E, Compound F, Compound G, Compound H, Compound I, Compound J, Compound K, Compound L, Compound M, and Compound N, or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt of any of the foregoing, in an amount effective for inhibiting Wip1 phosphatase activity in a cell.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the compound is Compound L.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the compound is Compound M.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein the cell is in a host.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the host is a mammal.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the mammal is a human.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein the host is afflicted with a disease or condition associated with Wip1 overexpression and the method is effective for treating the disease or condition.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the disease or condition is cancer.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the cancer is breast cancer.

17. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound selected from the group consisting of Compound A, Compound B, Compound C, Compound D, Compound E, Compound F, Compound G, Compound H, Compound I, Compound J, Compound K, Compound L, Compound M, and Compound N, or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt of any of the foregoing, and a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier.

18. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 17, wherein the compound is Compound L.

19. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 17, wherein the compound is Compound M.

20. A method of making a cancer therapeutic composition, which method comprises formulating a compound selected from the group consisting of Compound A, Compound B, Compound C, Compound D, Compound E, Compound F, Compound G, Compound H, Compound I, Compound J, Compound K, Compound L, Compound M, and Compound N, or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt of any of the foregoing, with a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the compound is Compound L.

22. The method of claim 20, wherein the compound is Compound M.

23. A compound selected from the group consisting of Compound A, Compound B, Compound C, Compound D, Compound E, Compound F, Compound G, Compound H, Compound I, Compound J, Compound K, Compound L, Compound M, and Compound N, or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

24. A method of screening a compound for Wip1-inhibiting activity, which method comprises comparing the level of Wip1 phosphatase activity in a test sample that has been contacted with the compound to the level of Wip1 phosphatase activity in a control sample that has not been contacted with the compound, wherein a lower level of Wip1 phosphatase activity in the test sample as compared to the control sample is indicative of the ability of the compound to inhibit Wip1.

25. A method of determining the efficacy with which a test compound inhibits Wip1, which method comprises comparing the level of Wip1 phosphatase activity in a test sample that has been contacted with the test compound to the level of Wip1 phosphatase activity in a control sample that has been contacted with a compound that is known to inhibit Wip1, wherein a lower level of Wip1 phosphatase activity in the test sample as compared to the control sample is indicative of the test compound having a greater efficacy for inhibiting Wip1 than the known compound and wherein a higher level of Wip1 phosphatase activity in the test sample as compared to the control sample is indicative of the test compound having a lower efficacy for inhibiting Wip1 than the known compound.